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Nebraska State Patrol Focusing on Teens

(Lincoln)-- The Nebraska State Patrol wants more young drivers to wear a seatbelt.

A new program uses a rollover simulator to show how effective a seatbelt is in a crash. Trooper Charlie Cook says they also use the “seat belt convincer” to demonstrate a slow-speed collision.

The “seat belt convince” demonstrates what can happen at just five miles per hour.

The distracted driver simulator is a new tool that shows the dangers of such things as texting while driving. Trooper Cook says teens can experience the danger of not focusing on the road through the simulated driving program. Deer and animals coming out in front of the vehicle, pedestrians and even other cars coming at you are included in the program.

Trooper Cook says any school or group interested in the program should contact their local Troop area office.

Teens seem to have the highest number of distractions when driving from cell phones to food and friends. This coupled with a general lack of driving experience make it important for teens to buckle up and try to limit the number of distractions in the vehicle.

The State Patrol is offering the program through March.

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